

IN THE CLAIMS

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing diarrhea mediated by pathogenic fungi in a ~~mammal~~ ruminant which suffers from intestinal colonization of the pathogenic fungi, comprising orally administering to the ~~mammal~~ ruminant a therapeutically effective amount of viable *Escherichia coli* strain DSM 6601.

4-7. (cancelled)

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising administering the *Escherichia coli* strain DSM 6601 for at least about 10 days.

9-13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~13~~3, wherein the ruminant is a bovine animal.

15-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing intestinal colonization of pathogenic fungi in a ~~mammal~~ruminant, comprising orally administering to the ~~mammal~~ ruminant, a therapeutically effective amount of viable *Escherichia coli* strain DSM 6601.

18. (cancelled)

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising administering the *Escherichia coli* strain DSM 6601 for at least 10 days.

20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~20~~17, wherein the ruminant is a bovine animal.